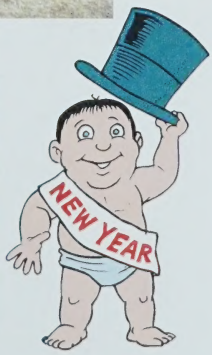
the RARS
Exciter
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
RARS
Worldwide Friendship
January 2005, Number 405

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Ronnie WA4MJF using the club call W4EOT, and Dr. Bob Conder K4RLC used the E-Comm trailer for the SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on November 27, 2004. See story and play by play action inside.



The Exciter

The ***Exciter*** is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is first Friday of the month or Friday after the monthly meeting. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the Exciter are those of the individual authors, and are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friend-ship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are $18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay $5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are $12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are $9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer, or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

EXCITER EDITOR: **Denyse Walter**
K4DAW
919-468-5358
k4daw@nc.rr.com

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: **Andy Peterson NI4S**
919-845-6251
ni4s@arrl.net

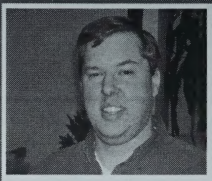
VICE-PRESIDENT **Dick Bitner W8HYD**
919-872-6802
ncsol@bellsouth.net

SECRETARY: **Dick Orander KD4ISC**
919-469-5322
kd4isc@arrl.net

TREASURER: **Greg Seamster KE4PAX**
919-859-0029
ke4pax@arrl.net

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh:
145.13 (82.5 PL)
146.64
224.64 (Temporarily off the air)
444.525 (82.5 PL)

WEB SITE www.rars.org



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

First of all, a BIG thank you to everyone who helped make the holiday toy drive a success. It's great to see hams helping out in whatever way we can.

As we wrap up 2004 and start in on '05, thanks are due as well to everyone who's participated in RARS activities this past year. I think we've had some fun, been able to help out with some events, and learned some new skills and tricks ourselves along the way. It doesn't get much better than that!

Let's keep it up in 2005. If there's a new mode or activity you'd like to hear more about, let us know! An opportunity to help out in the community, to educate other hams, or an activity you think the club might like to sponsor? We're all ears.

Thanks for a great year!
73, Andy

The Exciter goes to the printer the first Monday after the general meeting. Electronic mailing is the same week. Printing and mailing may vary.

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETINGS

Date: ***Every first Tuesday of the Month***
Location: ***Forest Hills Baptist Church, at Dixie Trail and Clark Avenue, in Raleigh***
Time: ***7:30pm. Folks start showing up a bit before 7 to chat, brag and eat donuts.***

VE Testing: The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August and November RARS meetings, at the RARSfest in April, the Cary Swapfest in July and the JARSfest in November, and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, the original and a copy of your current license, plus any CSCEs you have for credit. Please refer to www.rars.org for more information.

The RARS 145.13 Repeater is waiting for YOU! PL 82.5 Tone

Announcements

NEXT RARS MEETING:
January 4, 2004
Winter Weather-Tornados-Hurricanes

Time to think about the April 2005 Field Day. What are you planning on doing? A list of needs will be in the February Exciter.

Thank you so much for the generous contribution of toys for the White Dove Project in Florida. We received a total of 115 gifts.

NET REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER 2004

8:00PM DAILY: RARS Evening Net

Participants 464
Traffic 28/27
Time 722 minutes
Sessions 30

8:30PM SAT: Tech & Traders Net
9:00PM MON: SWL/SIG

Participants 48
Traffic 0/0
Time 393 Minutes
Sessions 9

RARS DINNER

Come join us on the **2nd** Tuesday of each month. We are currently meeting in the private dining room at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue. People start arriving around 6:30 P.M., and things usually wind down by 8 P.M. or so. You can come whenever it's convenient for you. This gathering is open to anyone, RARS and non-RARS members, adults and children alike. Hope to see you there.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

January 8, 2005	Winston Salem
February 5	Charleston ARS, SC
February 26	Elkin, NC
February 20	Richmond, VA Frostfest
March 6	Kinston, NC
March 12-13	Charlotte, NC
March 26	Elkin, NC
April 9	Chesapeake, VA
April 16	Morganton, NC
April 17th	**Raleigh, NC--RARSFEST**
May 20-22	**Dayton, OH**
May 21	Williamston, NC
May 28*	Durham, NC
June 11	Winston-Salem, NC
June 25-26	**FIELD DAY**

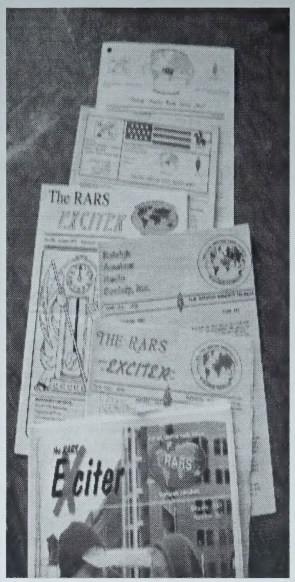
Courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
*Date is not confirmed

LOOKing Back 30 Years

Taken from the January 1975 Exciter

The Greenville, NC repeater is on the air and coverage is about the same as WR4ABP in Grigston. The repeater is on 147.69/09 and is awaiting their permanent license. It is on the air under local control as WR4ACH/4. Normal operating times are on Monday through Friday in the daytime and Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday nights.

The repeater autopatch is being watched by the FCC closely. For now, the amateur does not need to call someone to have that person call the police or fire department but can call himself.



LOOKing Back 10 Years

Taken from the January 1995 Exciter

Happy 65th anniversary to NCSU amateur radio club. W4ATC first appeared in the 1931 callbook. Stars (The Student Amateur Radio Society) plans special activites for later in the year. A planned exhibit on the club will appear in the library later in the year.

New Frequency for Wendell 6 meter repeater is on the air. The frequency is 29.620 with a standard - 100 khz input on 29.520. The initial approval to move was obtained from SERA.

North Carolina Section
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Wake County-Durham County
Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
November 20, 2004
Post-operation review by Tom Brown N4TAB
EC Wake County

Concept. In preparation for the annual SET, Wake County and Durham County ARES EC's planned another joint exercise to test individual county ARES readiness and cross-jurisdictional mutual-aid capabilities. Cooperation between these 2 groups is critical as the majority of the hospital capacity in the area is contained within those counties. The 2003 SET was also a 2-county event and involved an exercise involving the evacuation and transport of a major Wake County hospital's patients to hospitals in Durham County, owing to a contaminated cloud of effluvia resulting from an explosion near the hospital.

The 2004 SET was conceived to be a cyclonic weather event with a high number of communications interruptions "unscripted" with respect to timing. The intent was to have the participants act according to prior training and experience and work through the exercise "events". Much of the local area communications during ARES activations is conveniently conducted via strategically located repeaters throughout the area. Failure of these resources would require that participating ARES operators fall back to the lowest common denominator - simplex (single frequency) modes. This was casually mentioned in documents announcing the SET, in the days preceding.

Starting off with a problem. The SET was scheduled to commence at 0900 hours on Saturday, November 20, 2004, with a Skywarn announcement of a tornado in Durham County. As the first step, the event began early, with Durham EC John LeMay KG4WGA starting the operation a couple of minutes early and announcing touchdown of a tornado in Durham County. Thus began a particularly interesting and informative process.

Skywarn operators began filling-in with additional information and very realistic commentary, typical of a "real" event. Durham County announced activation at the request of Durham EM. Wake ARES was contacted and announced activation in support of Durham County. Then, a reported tornado in Wake County forced a change in focus as Wake County had to also support Wake EM.

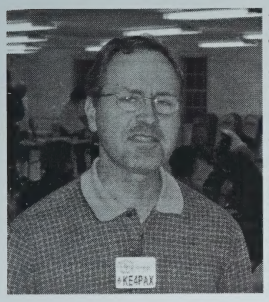
Total failure of repeaters. Communications between Wake County and Durham County initiated on the PCRN 146.880 wide area repeater and, after a brief interval, the repeater failed (the hardware was shut down by Danny Hampton K4ITL), forcing stations to seek the backup repeater, 145.390.

(Continued on page 7)

About RARS Members

If you have a special event in your life please contact the Exciter editor and share the excitement. Email: K4DAW@nc.rr.com.

TOTAL OF NEW MEMBERS SIGNED UP IN 2004: 27.
Let's continue getting the word out that we have a fine club and lots of activities for everyone.



Name: Greg Seamster, RARS Treasurer
Callsign: KE4PAX
Residence: Raleigh, NC

When did you become a ham and why: July, 1994. Co-workers were Hams, and I saw an opportunity to learn the radio technology and to provide public service.

What ham equipment do you own: An Alinco DJ-580 dual band handheld was purchased first, next a Kenwood TM-733 that I used as mobile and now use as a base station, and then a dual band Standard C5718DA that I use mobile. I also have a Yaesu FT-101E HF radio, but do not have HF privileges.

CW: Still need to learn the code. I have started to learn a couple of times, but have not dedicated enough time to learn.

Phone: 2m and 70cm

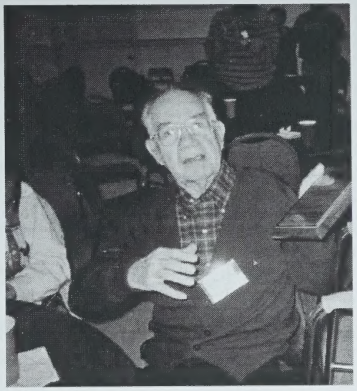
Contesting: What contest is your favorite: I have participated in Field Day which I enjoyed.

What hobby do you like besides ham radio: Computers and Antiques, including Antique Automobiles

Tell us something about yourself: I am a North Carolina native, a graduate of NC State University, and I enjoy attending events on the NCSU campus, including Basketball and Football games. After graduating from NCSU I worked for Nortel Networks for 16 years at their Technical Education Center.

I continue to provide training and lab support on Nortel equipment as an independent contractor through Innovatia Inc., a company that Nortel partnered with. Other work includes catering and food concessions at festivals and fairs from Massachusetts to Georgia. I also volunteer at the Triangle Reading Service by providing technical support on the computer equipment used for recording and playback of programming, as well as supporting the training of new volunteers to use the system.

Any other comments: One reason for getting into Ham radio was for public service. I have participated in a few public service events, but my work schedule which is often out of town and on weekends has limited my public service opportunities. As the RARS Treasurer, I have been able to support the amateur radio hobby.



Bob Corns K4WC (SK) (see story on page 6.)

JANUARY MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Chuck	K4HF	01/04
Jerry	KE4TTS	01/04
John	N4YRD	01/08
Jim	N4CAE	01/09
Beth	KF4QMR	01/09
Paul	KE4TMN	01/10
Woody	KJ4SO	01/13
Mike	KC4WUH	01/16
Del	KQ4MW	01/18
Johnnie	WA9SZL	01/19
Ashby	KB5ZIH	01/20
Kerrell	W4KGL	01/21
Craig	N4XOT	01/23
Alan	AB4OZ	01/30
Mark	W4MUB	01/30
Cyndi	KD4ACW	01/30

Minutes of the RARS Board Meeting
October 19, 2004

The RARS board meeting was held at the Forest Hills Baptist Church on Tuesday, October 19, 2004. Members present were W8HYD, K4HF, K4HM, K4MJL, KG4RMT, NI4S, K4DAW, K4FIJ and NC4VA.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. The minutes from the September board meeting were presented and approved.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report (KE4PAX): None

Vice President's Report (W8HYD):

Plans to organize a class for the Technician Class license continue. Andy Peterson, NI4S, will show "DXpedition" at the November general meeting.

The Encore singers will perform at the December general meeting. Members are asked to bring Christmas treats to share.

Committee Reports

FM committee (KA2FWC): No report

Exciter (K4DAW): A roster will be published in the November Exciter.

Net Manager (KG4OQA): No report

Web Master (W4NOT): No report

Membership (K4DAW): Nothing to report

Hamfest (K4HM): The first planning meeting for RARSfest 2005 was held September 27. The next meeting will be held October 25.

Field Day (N4HAF): No report

Public Information (KN4AQ): No report.

Education (W8HYD): Bob Conder, K4RLC, has resigned as Education Chairman and Dick Bitner, W8HYD, will assume those duties at this time.

VE Team (WA4GIR & KO4CK): No report

Public Service (K1RCB):

In absence of K1RCB, Dick Bitner, W8HYD, extended thanks to Denyse Walter, K4DAW, and Virginia Enzor, NC4VA, for setting up a Central Carolina Skywarn Special Event Station at the opening of a weather disasters exhibit at the Raleigh City Museum.

Denyse Walter, K4DAW, reported that the Autism Ribbon Run went well.

ARRL Liaison (K4HF):

The FCC has adopted revised Part 15 rules to specifically regulate broadband over power line systems. The FCC acknowledges interference to amateur radio from BPL.

Denyse Walter, K4DAW, suggested that stations might want to keep a log of what they hear on HF and the readability and strength of the signal for future reference if needed.

Nominating Committee (K4HF): Two positions remain open for 2005 – public service chairman and education director.

W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (AC4ZO): No report

At-Large Directors (WA9SZL, K4FIJ & KG4RMT): Nothing to report

Special or Ad Hoc Committees: No report

Unfinished Business:

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, suggested that Denyse Walter, K4DAW, send the "Welcome to the Club" letter to the board members by email to review and update.

Chuck Littlewood reminded board members that the RARS website should be updated and that board members should send their updates to the webmaster.

Andy Peterson, NI4S, invited board members who are vacating their positions at the end of 2004 to share a "How-To" list of responsibilities with the respective incoming officer or chairman.

New Business:

Denyse Walter, K4DAW, suggested that general meeting programs be planned six months in advance.

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, suggested that old issues of radio magazines be donated to doctors' and dentists' offices with a label stating, "Provided by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society." Contact information would also be provided. Dick Bitner, W8HYD, volunteered to make the labels. Chuck Littlewood shared information about a toy drive for children in hurricane-stricken areas of Florida. The toy drive is part the United Way's White Doves Holiday Project. RARS will participate in the toy drive with Denyse and Jim Walter, K4DAW and K4FIJ, serving as coordinators.

On motion by Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Enzor, NC4VA, Secretary

>>>

Silent Key
By Jeff AC4ZO

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of Bob Corns, K4MC. Bob was one of RARS' founding fathers who had a long history in ham radio, and a longer one in commercial (merchant) radio.

A while back, In the April 1997 issue of the Exciter was an account of the early days of the club. The article can also be seen at http://www.pagesz.net/~jwittich/articles/rarsbday.txt/. The account was according to Ed, WA4PEN. At the end of the article was the promise of additional accounts from others who were there. The source I had in mind was Bob, K4MC. But Bob became ill before I had the chance to speak with him of the great deeds done in the 60's. Recently, I was lucky enough to visit with Bob on the occasion of his 81st birthday, and as he was showing me things from his past, he found the whole account of the founding of the Club already written out. It is published here by permission.

From the log at K4MC: Some time ago, John KK4JB, asked me to give a few highlights of how the club got started and some of the events that have taken place since then. I told him then, that my memory was not as good as it used to be and for him not to grow old. I made myself a few notes and then checked with Ed Alderman. Ed and I generally head in the same general direction but somehow don't always arrive at the same place. You know Ed, he's a short and I'm a long waver. These are my recollections. In 1968- The club really got started by a group of amateurs and their wives who had a number of dinner meetings. In between these dinner meetings, various members got together in their homes. My recollection of those involved were: Stu Meyer - sales mgr of Aerotron; Bob Lade - NCSU - Dean EE Grad Students; Ed Alderman - NC ED Dept and VHF bug; Bill McDowell - State of NC Water Dept & DX hound; Tom Alexander - lawyer & general ham interest; John Freid - some DX and general interests; Bob Hainsworth - Fed bank examiner; Bob workman - print shop owner and general interest; and myself. The groundwork being completed in these meetings, Jan 1969 charter membership was opened and ran until March. The first general meeting was held in the auditorium of Occidental Insurance followed by several at the NCSU armory. I don't recall exactly how many charter members there were but it seems like it was a little over 30. The Governor (Bob Scott) was arm twisted into declaring Amateur Radio Week. The pictures and declaration were the main attraction in the first RARS newsletter. The fall of 1969 the club put on a STATE convention. Stu Meyer had the connections to twist arms and bring in the headliners for the event. Needless to say we had no money and most of the instigators mentioned above backed the affair. We needed 300 tickets to break even - total sales were 325. In 1970 we held a Roanoke Convention at the same place - The Hilton Inn now renamed Brownstone Inn on Hillsboro St. In 1971 - I think - we had the opportunity to buy some gear being replaced by Southern railroad. Tube type Motorola - 2 channels - xtal units. Most of these had to be rebuilt and power supplies built. Everyone pitched in and we set up one of the first repeaters in the area. The receiver was at one house and TX at another in order to get separation. The houses were those of Lee Johnson and Ed Alderman. The club has grown and prospered thanks to a lot of effort by club members. Some of the things that happened along the way: This club influenced club activity all over the state; First to have Governor proclaim Amateur Radio Week; Resumed State Conventions and Roanoke Conventions - none had been held for 15 or 20 years; Added fuel to repeater construction; Held an expedition to Nags Head - 70th year of flight - special call; Field days every year. Bob Corns, K4MC (date of writing unknown)

(Continued from page 4) SET on November 20, 2004

This repeater functioned for a few minutes and it, also, failed. ARES operations then moved to another wide area repeater - 147.195 and Skywarn moved to a 440 mHz network, according to their plan. Then, the 147.195 repeater failed, and the final repeater in the operations tree was sought. The 146.640 repeater was utilized for a brief interval, until it was also shut down. Now, the operators were, in a radio sense, in the dark.

Well, just go to simplex. The existing frequency plan mentioned moving to simplex, but was lacking in detail. Nonetheless, experienced operators "found" each other on common frequencies and began establishing communications within Wake County and into Durham County. The wide area coverage of the repeaters was missing and the short-range simplex operations did not afford the comfortable geographic margins usually encountered. Durham County also moved to simplex operation on the same frequency and, while convenient for inter-county work, this caused interference with intra-county communications

EOC in the weeds. In the interim, Skywarn continued to report severe weather, necessitating adaptation to changing circumstances. While an operator was enroute to the Wake County EOC in downtown Raleigh, Skywarn reported a microburst in the downtown area, with heavy rainfall. Immediately following, Wake ARES announced that the County EOC was flooded and unusable and that a backup EOC was being established at another location within the county. Ronnie Reams WA4MJF mobilized his Emergency Communications trailer W4EOT and deployed to the backup site at Wake Commons. David Crawford KF4VXJ and Bob Conder K4RLC assisted with set-up.

The W4EOT trailer arrived at Wake Commons, located a suitable spot from which to operate and began setup. The generator was started, antennas affixed and operations began. Owing to the geographic elevation of the Wake Commons site, direct simplex communications with Durham County was not possible, but traffic could be relayed via N4MQU.

At this point, Wake ARES AEC Mark Gibson N4MQU realized that simplex facilities in use at the time were not adequate and branched to an adaptive plan. He deployed to the residence of a nearby operator Vaden Holmes N4DIL and his high, tower-mounted simplex antenna. N4DIL had commenced operations in advance of Mark's arrival and was inundated with tactical traffic and relaying of messages.

NCEM gets into the act. The North Carolina Emergency Management's Central Branch EOC then activated in Butner, NC, requiring Amateur Radio Support. Currently, that office is in temporary quarters and without any fixed Amateur Radio infrastructure, requiring VHF/UHF and HF support from mobile equipment. An operator with suitable mobile equipment deployed from Wake County to the Butner (Granville County) EOC location and communications was established between Wake and Durham ARES operations via VHF/UHF simplex and with an Area 7 DEC via HF

Wrap-up and critique. Following stand-down of the SET, an on-air review and critique was conducted. The EC's commented on their perceptions and every participant was accorded the opportunity to comment and offer constructive criticism and suggestions. Most did so. In general, it was agreed that we got our job accomplished and also identified areas that need attention. It was clear from the comments received that, while this "was just a drill", all operators took their tasks very seriously and applied the same interest, effort and shills that have been evident in "real" activations in the past.

What we accomplished. Overall, the SET exercise accomplished its goals:

- Very realistic scenario, with Skywarn participation
- Multi-county, multi-jurisdiction operations
- Quick start-up
- Immediate insertion of problems with real hardware shutdown of repeaters
- Abrogated backup communications plans via additional repeater shutdowns
- Recognized that county-wide and inter-county use of simplex communications requires additional procedures to accomplish the same tasks
- Identified the need for clear definition of additional procedures for simplex operations
- Identified the need for additional training while using simplex frequencies

Where we go from here. Lessons learned from this exercise have resulted in some immediate actions and set the stage for future activities. Within a few hours following the completion of the SET, the Wake County ARES website, www.wakeares.org was updated to provide a short-form of basic radio procedures for activations and an update of the overall recommended repeater and simplex frequency list. We have also discussed this exercise on our weekly nets with a view to acquaint ARES participants with the lessons learned and the updated information and procedures.

All of this suggests that we will need to conduct additional exercises to gain experience and confidence in operating under similar, adverse conditions.

A BIG THANKS! to all of the operators that participated in this important exercise! We had participants from Wake, Durham, Cumberland and Nash Counties, all of whom contributed significantly to this drill. We worked together, and well, with a common purpose, and accomplished our tasks.

No effort was made to list all of the good folks that participated - only those who happened to be at mentioned point in time. Everybody worked hard and well.

Well Done, Everyone!

(Part 2 will be in the February Exciter. A play by play of the SET on November 20, 2004)

Contest Corner

There are some fun HF contests coming up in January!

North American QSO Party
CW: January 8-9 Phone: January 15-16
Both start at 2:00 PM local on Saturday and go until 2:00 AM Sunday, 12 hours.

This is a fun contest for a few reasons. The first is the exchange -- name and state. It adds a bit of a personal, friendly touch. Though if you're on CW and your name is Zebediah, you may consider sending something shorter. It's amazing how many CW ops are named "Ed" during this contest!

You can work a station again on a different band, which is neat. The 12-hour format means you can get on and find plenty of QSOs any time. The other aspect that makes this one more fun is that everyone is limited to 100 watts. The playing field gets leveled somewhat, though as we all know, not all antenna farms are created equal!

ARRL RTTY Roundup
January 8-9, starts 2:00 PM local Saturday, ends 8:00 PM local Sunday.
You can work a maximum of 24 out of the 30 hours.

An international digital (not just RTTY) event, fun for some digital DX. Send 599-NC, receive similar from US/Canadian hams, or 599 and a serial number from anyone else. There are some particular rules about band changes and off times, so visit www.arrl.org for more info.

North Carolina QSO Party
It's not too early to start thinking about this event, which will be the last weekend in February. Check out www.w4nc.org for more information. This would be a good event to do as a small group using W4DW if we can find a host station.

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Minutes of the RARS General Meeting for December 2004

The December meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on December 7, 2004 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail. Members gathered and shared holiday refreshments and a few minutes of fellowship prior to the official start of the meeting.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:42pm.

Steve N0JVB was recognized and welcomed as a guest to the meeting.

The following announcements were made:

Andy, NI4S, thanked everyone for the toy and money donations made to the White Dove Project which will help the children of Florida affected by this year's hurricanes. Jim, K4FIJ, and Denyse Walter, K4DAW, will be transporting the toys to Florida next week.

A CERT training session will be conducted in Raleigh on December 17 through 19. Contact Bob Breyer, K1RCB, for additional information.

Charlie Brown, W4VFJ, reported the recent loss of long time RARS member Bob Corns, K4MC. He also passed along the thanks and appreciation of Bob's wife for the time members spent with Bob and their family in his final days.

Treasurer's Report

Greg Seamster, KE4PAX, reported there were 235 members of RARS

The floor was given to Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, for the installation of officers, board members and committee chairs elected during last month's meeting. Chuck read the following names of members and their elected positions and asked those present to step to the front to be installed.

Dick Bitner, W8HYD – Vice President
Greg Seamster, KE4PAX – Treasurer
Dick Orander, KD4ISC – Secretary
Gary Pearce, KN4AQ – Public Information Officer and FM Repeater Chair
Hank Montgomery, K4HM – RARS 2005 Hamfest Chair
Denyse Walter, K4DAW – RARS Exciter Editor and RARS Membership Chair
Mary Holtschneider, KG4OQA – RARS Net Manager
Johnnie Mayfield, WA9SZL – At-Large Director
Bob Breyer, K1RCB – At-Large Director
Selene Montgomery, KG4RMT – At-Large Director
Jim Walter, K4FIJ – At-Large Director
Chuck Littlewood, K4HF – ARRL Liaison
Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO – W4DW and W4RNC Trustee
Neal Fisher, N4HAF – RARS 2005 Field Day Chair
Liz, KO4CK and Joe White, WA4GIR – RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators
Tim Nicholson, W4NOT – RARS Web Master

New board members for 2005

Chuck then asked all members who have served as officers, board members or committee chairs to stand and receive a round of applause and thanks from the membership for their work during this past year.

The floor was then given to Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO. Jeff presented Denyse Walter, K4DAW (former KG4CXR), with the 64 on 64 award. Denyse also earned the 64 RARS members and 128 contacts endorsements.

Program

Andy, NI4S, introduced The Encore Singers. They provided a festive and musical holiday presentation for the group to enjoy.

Door Prizes were won by W2JNW, K4HM and KD4ISC.

Attendance – 47.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Dick Orander KD4ISC
RARS Secretary

Jeff AC4ZO giving 64 on 64 award to Denyse K4DAW

Members feasting on the goodies

Encore singers performing

Photos by Gary KN4AQ, Steve KJ4BX & Jim K4FIJ

CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

What is CERT

Why Is There a Need?

Each year, many North Carolina communities are rocked by severe weather such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods or flash floods, winter storms or "man made" disasters.

The damage caused by such disasters affects everyone. Disasters: (1). Can severely restrict and overwhelm emergency response resources, communications, transportation and utilities; and (2). Can leave individuals and neighborhoods cut off from outside emergency support.

What Does the Course Involve?

The Community Emergency Response Team course consists of 21 hours of hands-on training. Classes are taught by emergency responders, including firefighters, emergency medical and law enforcement personnel, from your community.

The course agenda includes:

Unit 1 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Introduction to disasters, impact of disasters on infrastructures, the role of CERTs in disaster response.

Unit 2 FIRE SAFETY

Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards, basic fire suppression strategy, resources and techniques.

Unit 3 EMERGENCY MEDICAL OPERATIONS, PT. 1

Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions and principles of triage.

Unit 4 EMERGENCY MEDICAL OPERATIONS, PT 2

Head-to-toe assessments, treatment for various injuries

Unit 5 LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

Techniques for size-up and search, lifting, cribbing and removing victims, rescuer safety

Unit 6 CERT ORGANIZATION

Team organization, decision making, documentation

Unit 7 DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY

Team well-being, working with survivors' trauma

Unit 8 TERRORISM AND CERT

Terrorist targets and weapons, preparing home and work.The target audiences for this course are private citizens, businesses and schools that want the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and respond to a disaster.

(Classes are given regularly. Please take a class when offered.)

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SKYWARN

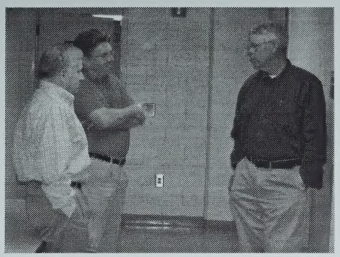
NEWS

The Central Carolina Skywarn Net Meets Tuesdays at 9:15 PM on 146.88 Repeater

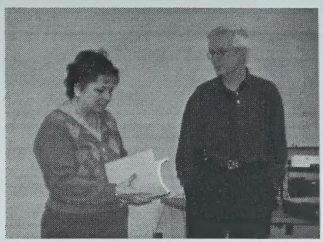
SKYWARN DINNER

WE WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER
Next dinner is JANUARY 30, 2005, 6:00pm, at the Golden Corral in Raleigh on Glenwood Avenue. Jeff Orrock will be speaking on winter weather.

Winter Weather Conference held On November 20



WRAL meteorologist Greg Fishel talks to emergency coordinators.



Virginia NC4VA and Kermit from the NWS discussing hurricane damage from this summer.

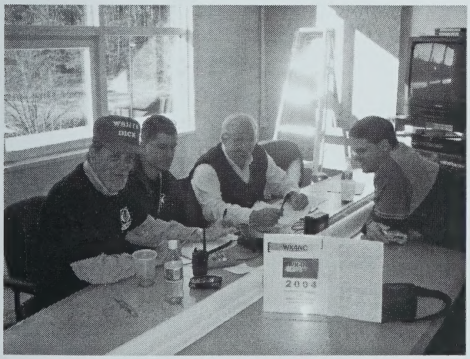
SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

December 4, 2004 was the SRD (Skywarn Recognition Day) sponsored by the National Weather Services offices around the world. Raleigh participated with IRLP, HF and the local 146.88 repeater. The object: For all amateur stations to exchange QSO information with as many National Weather Service Stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meter bands plus the 70 centimeter band. Contacts via repeaters are permitted. Skywarn Recognition Day serves to celebrate the contributions to public safety made by amateur radio operators during threatening weather.

Thanks to all those that helped at the NWS:
Mark K4MQU, Virginia NC4VA, Tim W4NOT, Jim KB4BZ, Rick K4RLE, Jim K4FIJ, Rick AJ9F/4, Skip N6LUZ and Denyse K4DAW.

A special thanks to Dick W8HYD for supplying the HF rig for use. Jeff Orrock and Darin from the NWS supplied the pizzas for lunch. Thank you.

The SRD is on the first weekend of December each year. We hope you can take part next year.



Dick W8HYD, Tim W4NOT, Jim KB4BZ and Jeff Orrock NWS Severe Weather Warning Meteorologist working 20 meters.

Jim K4FIJ, Denyse K4DAW, Rick AJ9F/4, Skip N6LUZ, Jeff NWS meteorologist, Virginia NC4VA, Dick W8HYD on IRLP and 146.88

Photos by Denyse K4DAW

The RARS
Exciter January 2005

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WINTER WEATHER CONFERENCE 2004

CONGRATULATIONS DANNY

Left:
Danny Hampton KI4TL received NOAA Natural award of the month for tower and repeater maintenance. The award was given by Bryan Campbell & Steve Harnett. This is a very special award and was presented at the Winter Weather Conference on November 20, 2004

The Winter Weather Conference was attended by meteorologists, city and county coordinators, and hams from Central Carolina and Triad Skywarn.

Photo by Denyse K4DAW